### Fleming, Sheila

From: (b) (6)(b) (6)

Sent:

Sunday, September 21, 2014 10:16 AM (b) (6)(b) (6) ; Fleming, Sheila; (b) (b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6)(b) (6) To:

(b) (6)(b) (6)Cc:

FW: Air quality concerns Subject:

Attachments: attachment 1.pdf; attachment 2.pdf; attachment 3.pdf

It worries me that Marykay's letter states that --

# EPA's Request to GSA

When the team met to review OEA's concerns, we asked the GSA r OEA's requests with the GSA Contracting Officer (CO). Specifically, we as the actions below of the lessor even though the terms of the lease are bein

1. Ask the lessor to lower the testing limit on the contaminants. Currently t not require that TCE be separated out from other VOCs rather it requires the below 500mg. This protocol was established by the LEED consultant and lessor.

Sampling Location	TVOCs (ug/m³)	PM10 Particulates (ug/m³)	CO (ppm)
Date & Time	July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 8:00 – 12:00	July 22 <sup>nd</sup> 8:02 – 12:04	July 22 <sup>r</sup> 8:03 – 12
Floor 14 GIS Room– Interior Room near NW corner of floor	<200	5	0.3
LEED Maximum Allowable	500	50	9

< = less than

## CONCLUSIONS

Results from air testing on the newly renovated 14<sup>th</sup> Floor of the I Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington, indicate that the space had c formaldehyde, TVOCs, PM10 and 4-PCH that were below the matestablished by LEED<sup>®</sup>.

Since she could not even get the units straight, or the mg vs  $\mu$ g then I am not sure what else could be trusted from that message other than we have to trust them.

Not sure that group can separate 500 µg/meter<sup>3</sup> from 500 mg from 500 pinguins......

I have not gotten back to Joyce yet, but will think about it as I ride the train back to the hills.



From: Kelly, Joyce

Sent: Friday, September 19, 2014 8:40 AM

To: R10-OEA Mail Group

Cc: Voytilla, Marykay; Greaves, Natasha; Chu, Ed

**Subject:** Air quality concerns

### Hello OEA,

I, members of your management team, and our Health and Safety Program have been working with OMP to raise and resolve air quality concerns that some of you on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor have expressed. This week, a meeting was held between OMP and OEA

management and H&S staff to review the current state of air quality information and to determine if additional actions are recommended. Following that meeting, May Kay prepared and sent the summary below to Region 10 Union officials.

- All air quality data received to date is posted on the Park Place Remodel website Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) webpage and available for review
- Each floor passed LEED IAQ requirements prior to occupancy as required by the existing lease between GSA and Washington Holdings (Lessor) for EPA space in the Park Place building
- GSA determined that the Lessor is meeting the terms of the lease for air quality data collection and therefore declined to go forward with a request to the Lessor to analyze additional constituents or take additional samples beyond the required LEED protocol (see attachment 1)
- As indicated in attachment 1, GSA requested enhanced ventilation of the Lessor on newly remodeled floors. As this action would be beyond the requirements of the lease, the Lessor responded with the cost to the government to do so (see attachment 2)
- GSA clarified that floors 14 and 15 did receive one full week of enhanced ventilation at no cost to the government (i.e., 24/7 venting) due to the water leak on floor 15 (see attachment 3)
- GSA reviewed ventilation requirements of the lease and determined that the Lessor is meeting and in some cases exceeding the lease requirements (see attachment 2)
- To the extent possible, the Union has been kept apprised of employee concerns and actions taken by OMP and OEA management and health & safety staff. At the last Labor Management Partnership Forum H&S committee meeting, there was no consensus reached regarding the need for additional air quality actions.
- Flex cubes have been provided on other floors for staff use on a temporary basis if impacted by construction noise, odors, etc. In addition, four flex cubes have been set-up on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor so that staff have the opportunity to work in an unremodeled space/flex cube.
- Some employees remain concerned about indoor air quality. A FOIA has been submitted to Region 10 by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. The FOIA requests, among other things, information about indoor air quality.

The remodel team will work with GSA to verify that the ventilation system on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor is functioning as designed and working properly. OEA management also raised concerns regarding the temperature and air flow in the Elwha conference room. Yesterday, OMP reported that building management reset the fan terminal unit (air conditioning unit) in Elwha. That fix is currently being tested. No additional actions, beyond those identified above, are being pursued.

### Joyce

Joyce C. Kelly, Director Office of Environmental Assessment US EPA, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, OEA-095 Seattle, WA 98101 206 553-4029